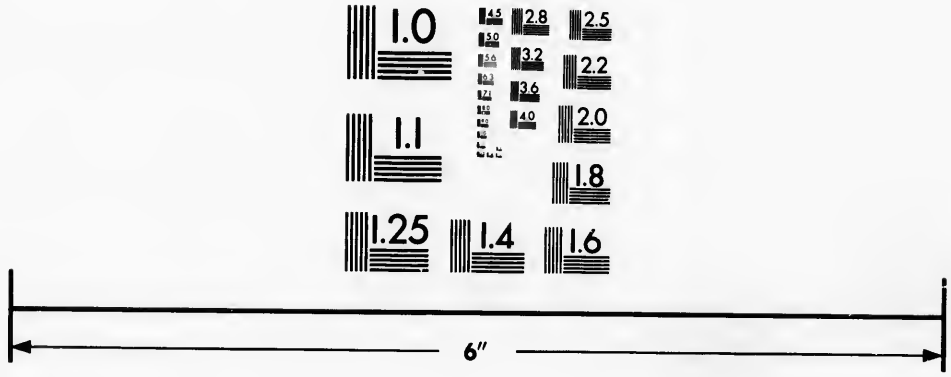
IMAGE EVALUATION
TEST TARGET (MT-3)



Photographic
Sciences
Corporation

23 WEST MAIN STREET
WEBSTER, N.Y. 14580
(716) 872-4503

CIHM
Microfiche
Series
(Monographs)

ICMH
Collection de
microfiches
(monographies)

Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions / Institut canadien de microreproductions historiques

© 1993

Technical and Bibliographic Notes / Notes techniques et bibliographiques

The Institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for filming. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of filming, are checked below.

L'Institut a microfilmé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de filmage sont indiqués ci-dessous.

- [ ] Coloured covers/ Couverture de couleur
- [ ] Covers damaged/ Couverture endommagée
- [ ] Covers restored and/or laminated/ Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée
- [ ] Cover title missing/ Le titre de couverture manque
- [ ] Coloured maps/ Cartes géographiques en couleur
- [ ] Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black)/ Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire)
- [ ] Coloured plates and/or illustrations/ Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur
- [ ] Bound with other material/ Relié avec d'autres documents
- [ ] Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion along interior margin/ La reliure serrée peut causer de l'ombre ou de la distorsion le long de la marge intérieure
- [ ] Blank leaves added during restoration may appear within the text. Whenever possible, these have been omitted from filming/ Il se peut que certaines pages blanches ajoutées lors d'une restauration apparaissent dans le texte, mais, lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont pas été filmées.

- [ ] Coloured pages/ Pages de couleur
- [ ] Pages damaged/ Pages endommagées
- [ ] Pages restored and/or laminated/ Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées
- [x] Pages discoloured, stained or foxed/ Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées
- [ ] Pages detached/ Pages détachées
- [x] Showthrough/ Transparence
- [ ] Quality of print varies/ Qualité inégale de l'impression
- [ ] Continuous pagination/ Pagination continue
- [ ] Includes index(es)/ Comprend un (des) index

Title on header taken from:/ Le titre de l'en-tête provient:

- [ ] Title page of issue/ Page de titre de la livraison
- [ ] Caption of issue/ Titre de départ de la livraison
- [ ] Masthead/ Générique (périodiques) de la livraison

- [ ] Additional comments:/ Commentaires supplémentaires:

This item is filmed at the reduction ratio checked below/
Ce document est filmé au taux de réduction indiqué ci-dessous.

10X 12X 14X 16X 18X 20X 22X 24X 26X 28X 30X 32X

The copy filmed here has been reproduced thanks to the generosity of:

La Bibliothèque de la Ville de Montréal

The images appearing here are the best quality possible considering the condition and legibility of the original copy and in keeping with the filming contract specifications.

Original copies in printed paper covers are filmed beginning with the front cover and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression, or the back cover when appropriate. All other original copies are filmed beginning on the first page with a printed or illustrated impression, and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression.

The last recorded frame on each microfiche shall contain the symbol ⟶ (meaning "CONTINUED"), or the symbol ▽ (meaning "END"), whichever applies.

Maps, plates, charts, etc., may be filmed at different reduction ratios. Those too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom, as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method:

L'exemplaire filmé fut reproduit grâce à la générosité de:

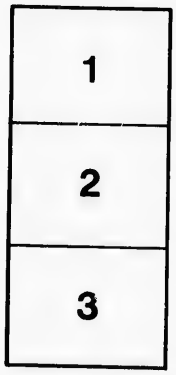
La Bibliothèque de la Ville de Montréal

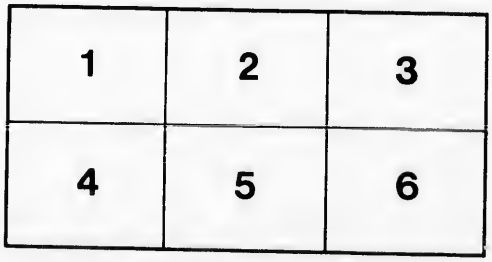
Les images suivantes ont été reproduites avec le plus grand soin, compte tenu de la condition et de la netteté de l'exemplaire filmé, et en conformité avec les conditions du contrat de filmage.

Les exemplaires originaux dont la couverture en papier est imprimée sont filmés en commençant par le premier plat et en terminant soit par la dernière page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration, soit par le second plat, selon le cas. Tous les autres exemplaires originaux sont filmés en commençant par la première page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration et en terminant par la dernière page qui comporte une telle empreinte.

Un des symboles suivants apparaîtra sur la dernière image de chaque microfiche, selon le cas: le symbole ⟶ signifie "A SUIVRE", le symbole ▽ signifie "FIN".

Les cartes, planches, tableaux, etc., peuvent être filmés à des taux de réduction différents. Lorsque le document est trop grand pour être reproduit en un seul cliché, il est filmé à partir de l'angle supérieur gauche, de gauche à droite, et de haut en bas, en prenant le nombre d'images nécessaire. Les diagrammes suivants illustrent la méthode.





88

11912

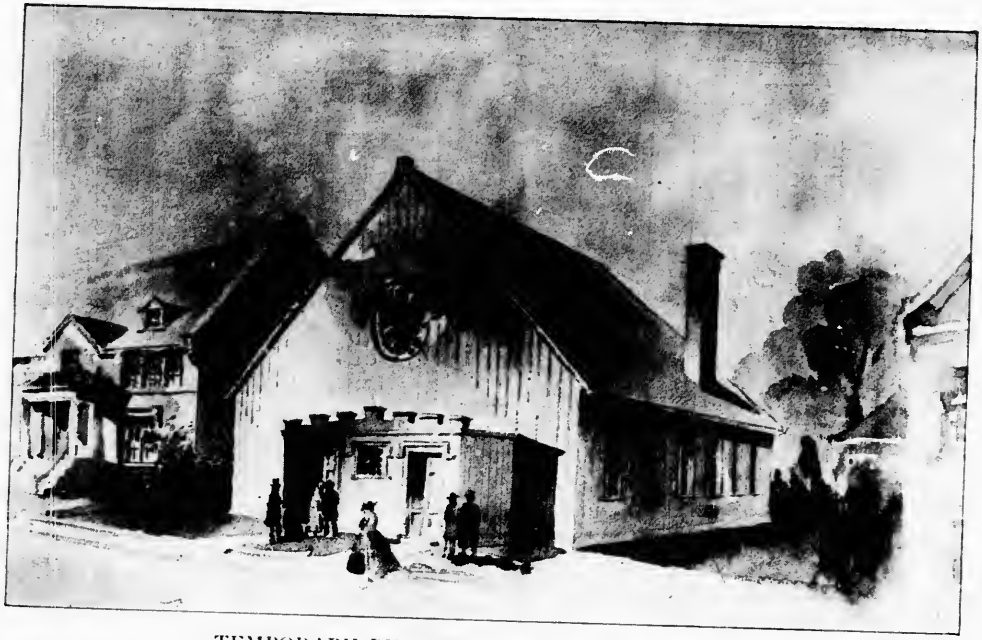
A SHORT SKETCH OF THE HISTORY OF CRESCENT STREET CHURCH, MONTREAL :: :: ::

C. R. D.

BY....
JOHN STIRLING

PRESS OF
MORTON, PHILLIPS & CO.
MONTREAL

118368



TEMPORARY BUILDING, LAGAUCHETIERE STREET.

A SHORT SKETCH OF THE HISTORY OF CRESCENT ST. CHURCH, MONTREAL

By JOHN STIRLING.

DURING the last year of his life the late Mr. John Stirling was much interested in preparing material to illustrate the short sketch of the history of the congregation he had written, and which the Deacons' Court printed in the report of 1899. While helping him in this congenial task, I experienced the greatest difficulty in getting any drawing whatever of Coté Street Church. I hunted for it in every library in the city, in the Chateau de Ramezay, and in the old book stores, but without success. At last I thought that

ARCHIBALD M'GOUN.

possibly the plans of the building might still be in existence, and calling on Mrs. Redpath, of Terrace Bank, I found that my supposition was correct, and she very kindly put the elevation of the church and spire at my disposal. I felt that with this help we could make as good a drawing of the old church as most of those which appear in that rare work "Hochelaga Depicta."

But better things than I anticipated were in store when the Rev. Principal MacVicar produced at our annual meeting an excellent wood cut of Coté Street Church in an American publication. I felt that my difficulties were at an end, and when our elder, Mr. David Morrice, heard of the purpose of Mr. Stirling he, with his accustomed generosity, instructed me to go on with the work and complete it. I felt that there was a peculiar appropriateness in this arrangement. Mr. Stirling and Mr. Morrice had been elected elders at the same time. They had been associated for many years in all the work of the congregation.

JOHN REDPATH.

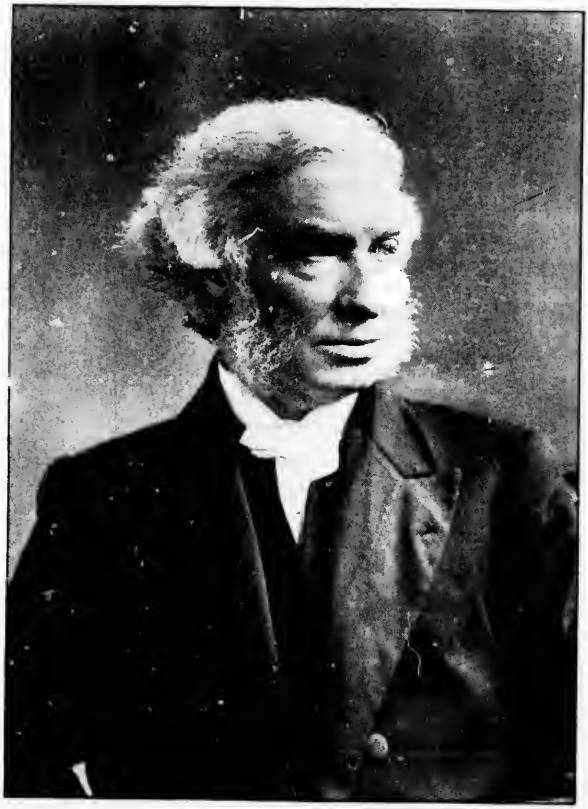
At a rather critical stage in connection with the erection of Crescent Street Church, these two assumed a responsibility to which we are indebted for the beautiful façade which adorns it, therefore it seemed to me a good and beautiful thing that the little memento of this work projected by the one should be perfected by the other.

I have also to express my obligation to Mr. A. C. Hutchison, architect, for the sketch of the temporary wooden building in which the congregation met till Coté Street Church was erected. This building was on Lagauchetière street, and during the week was used as a day school. Mr. Hutchison and Mr. Hugh Cameron, our session clerk, went to this school when they were boys, as did also Mr. R. A. Becket, who for six years led the Psalmody in Coté Street Church, and the sketch made is from their remembrance of it. There are a few others who can recall this old building, and it will be interesting to hear

COTÉ STREET CHURCH.

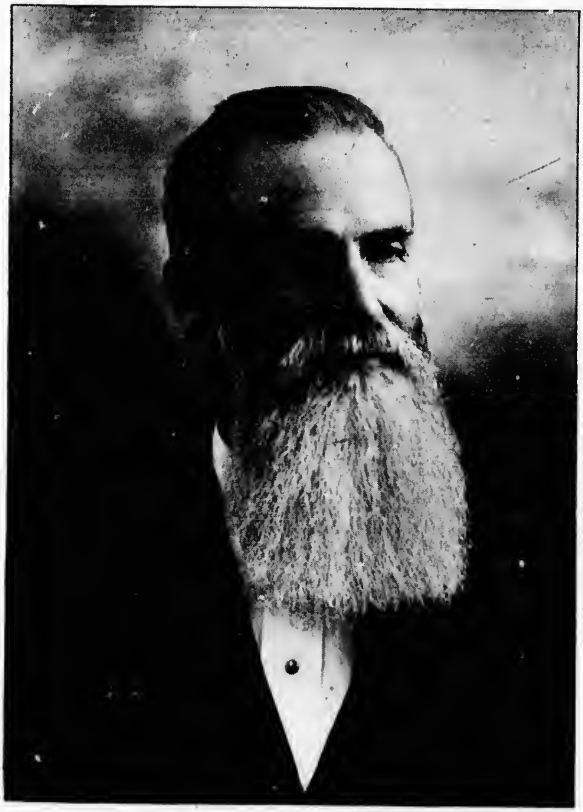
their opinion of the sketch. The house shown at the left of the picture still stands, though somewhat altered. The space on the right was used as a wood yard. Another interesting fact in regard to both this sketch of the wooden building and that of Coté Street Church is that we are indebted for a very artistic reproduction of them to Mr. Norman MacVicar, architect, second son of the second minister of Coté Street Church. From the wood cut in his father's possession, and the pencil sketch of Mr. Hutchison, he drew the excellent pictures which adorn the walls of the vestry, and from which the photogravures were taken. The picture of Crescent Street Church is from a photograph by Mr. Rice, at one time our precentor.

Of the twelve men who commenced this work only one remains with us this day, our venerable and highly esteemed senior elder and session clerk, Mr. Archibald McGoun, whose portrait appears on the opening page of this memento.



REV. DONALD FRASER, D.D.

Mr. John Redpath is rightly called by Mr. Stirling "The Father of the Church," for he was the leading spirit in the "Free Church Committee," and his son, Peter Redpath, has perpetuated his memory in the beautiful memorial window which adorns the church. James Court and Joseph Mackay were also members of the original committee, and the latter, with his brother, Edward Mackay, are representatives of a family whose benefactions to the congregation are unsurpassed, and in whose memory Mr. Robert Mackay has arranged this year to put in a window which will be the counterpart of the Redpath window. Judge Torrance and John Campbell were ordained elders together, and were men of a kindred spirit—devout and faithful. David Morrice, James Ross and John Stirling were elected elders at the same time, but as Mr. Stirling was in Scotland his ordination did not take place at the same time as that of the other two. Mr. Morrice has been connected

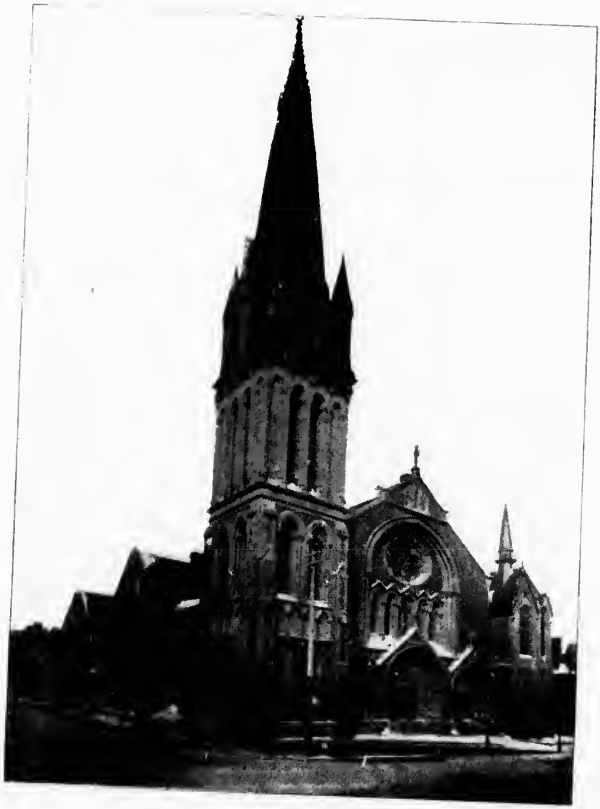


REV. D. H. MACVICAR, D.D., LL.D.

with the Sabbath school as assistant superintendent, superintendent and honorary superintendent for over thirty-seven years. Mr. Ross has been the superintendent of our mission school, Nazareth street, for nearly forty years. These portraits are only a first instalment of those whose memories we would like to keep green. I have with considerable labour collected a large number of interesting photographs. I am very thankful to be able to make this commencement, and trust that the work may be continued till we have an adequate memorial extending up to the jubilee of the congregation.

A. B. MACKAY.

REV. R. F. BURNS, D.D.



CRESCENT STREET CHURCH.

INTERIOR CRESCENT STREET CHURCH (With John Redpath Memorial Window).

MR. STIRLING'S SKETCH

Looking over the present list of the members of this congregation, there appears to be at least five still remaining who have been connected with it from its beginning, and who no doubt can well remember the cause of its origin—the memorable conflict in the Established Church of Scotland, on the non-intrusion question. This conflict lasted for about ten years, and culminated in the disruption of the Church, on the 18th day of May, 1843, when 474 of its Ministers and Missionaries, for conscience sake, severed their connection with it, and constituted themselves into a body called the "Free Church of Scotland," giving up their Churches, their manses, their livings, and risking every worldly prospect, going forth with their wives and

JOSEPH MACKAY.

families, not knowing what might befall them, but with a clear conscience, trusting in God for the future, whatever it might be; one of the noblest sacrifices for principle that the world has ever seen.

During all the time of the conflict, many of the members of the Presbyterian Churches of this City in connection with the Established Church of Scotland, strongly sympathised with the non-intrusion movement, and on the disruption taking place, considered it their duty to manifest their sympathy with the Free Church principles. At that time (1843-44) there were five Presbyterian Churches in this City, viz: St. Gabriel Street Church, St. Andrew's Church, St. Paul's Church, Lagauchetière Street Church, and the American Presbyterian Church, the first three of which were in connection with the Established Church of Scotland. The first concerted movement in this direction took place on the 10th day of January, 1844, when twelve ardent and good

em,
for
the
has

the
this
rch
on-
ion
fest
les.
by-
iel
l's
the
of
ed
ve-
ay
od

EDWARD MACKAY.

men, who might well be called the twelve Apostles of the Free Church in Canada, met together and called themselves the Free Church Committee, others joining them afterwards, their object being to extend and propagate Free Church principles. The ultimate result of the work of this Committee, was that in May, 1845, a new Presbyterian congregation was formed in Montreal, which worshipped for a time in a wooden building on Lagauchetière street, near the head of Coté street, which had been hastily and cheaply erected, being only intended to accommodate the congregation temporarily, until the projected new Church to be built on Coté street should be ready for occupation.

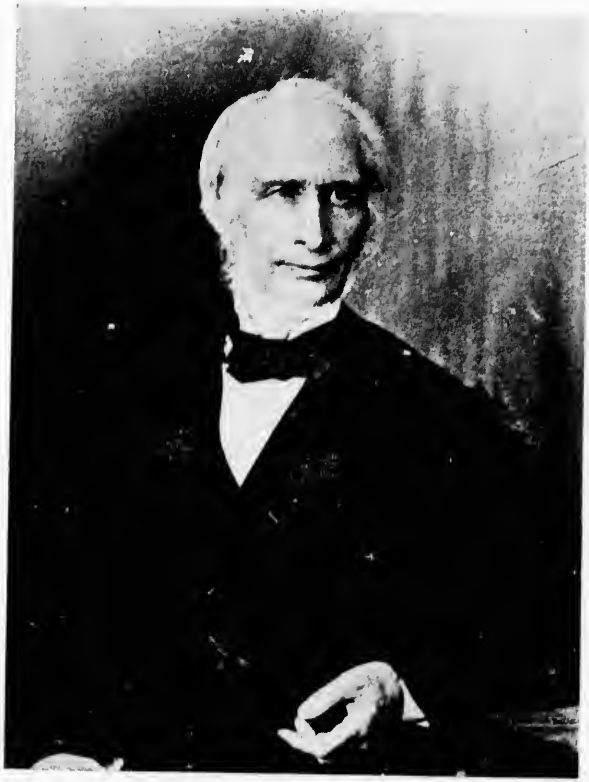
At this time (1845) this locality was most respectable and quite uptown, and the new Church which was proposed to be erected there, turned out to be the largest and finest Presbyterian Church building of its day in the City. It was opened for public worship, on Sabbath the 16th

REV. A. B. MACKAY, D.D.

day of May, 1847, and the name chosen for it, was the "Free Church Coté Street."

From the time of the formation of the congregation in May, 1845, until the settlement of its first Pastor, the Rev. Donald Fraser, on the 8th day of August, 1851, a period of a little over six years, the pulpit was supplied by Ministers from Scotland, delegated by the Colonial Committee of the Free Church. The Rev. Donald Fraser removed to Inverness, Scotland, in February, 1859, which caused a vacancy of the pulpit for about two years.

On the 30th day of January, 1861, the Rev. D. H. MacVicar was settled as Pastor, and ministered to the congregation until he commenced work as Professor in the Presbyterian College, Montreal, in September, 1868. Then after another vacancy of about twenty months, the Rev. R. F. Burns D.D., of Chicago, was settled as pastor, on the 4th day of May, 1870, and continued as such until February, 1875, when he removed to Halifax, N.S.



JAMES COURT.

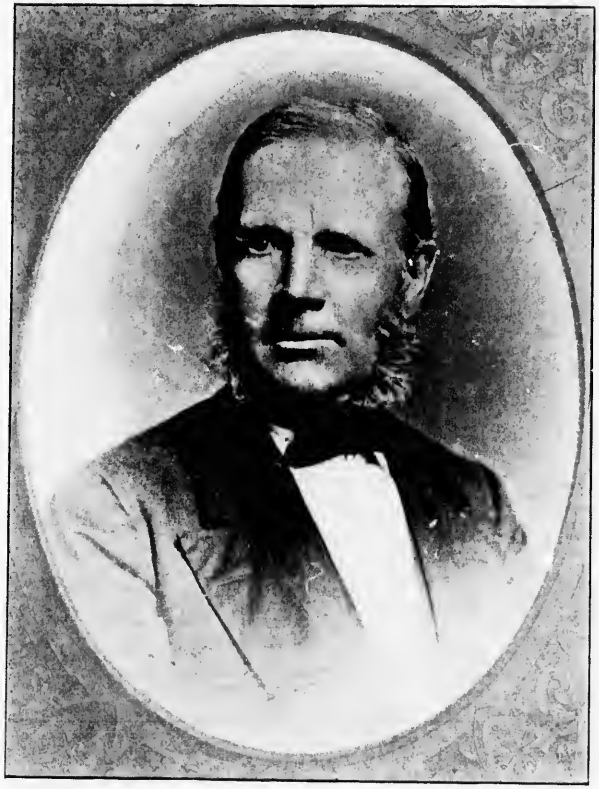
Then occurred the long vacancy of the pulpit of nearly four years. The cause of the length of this vacancy, was chiefly that the majority of the congregation had come to be of the decided opinion, that longer continuance in the locality of Coté street was suicidal. Since the original formation of the congregation in 1845, the population of the City had increased three fold, and the character of the locality had entirely changed. The Protestant part of the population had mostly removed westwards to an inconvenient distance from the Church, and the remnant were gradually moving away in the same direction, and the consequent dropping off of families and members, who were joining Churches much more convenient to their dwelling, made the absolute necessity of removing the Church building westwards quite apparent.

In the month of November, 1875, a special meeting of the congregation was held in the Lecture Room of Coté Street Church, at which,

THE HON. JUSTICE TORRANCE.

after due consideration, a resolution was passed to move to a more suitable locality, and a Committee was appointed to select a site whereon to erect a new Church, and to procure subscriptions for the carrying out of this project. After considering several available sites, the one on which Crescent Street Church now stands was decided upon, and the subscriptions were so liberal, that notwithstanding an opposition to this movement that had sprung up, the site was purchased and plans were prepared, and the work of building commenced early in the fall of 1876, and before the winter had fairly set in, the foundation walls of the new building were finished. Work was then stopped for the winter and commenced again in the spring of 1877, as early as the weather permitted, and on the 5th day of May, 1877, the corner stone was laid with due ceremony, of what is now "Crescent Street Presbyterian Church."

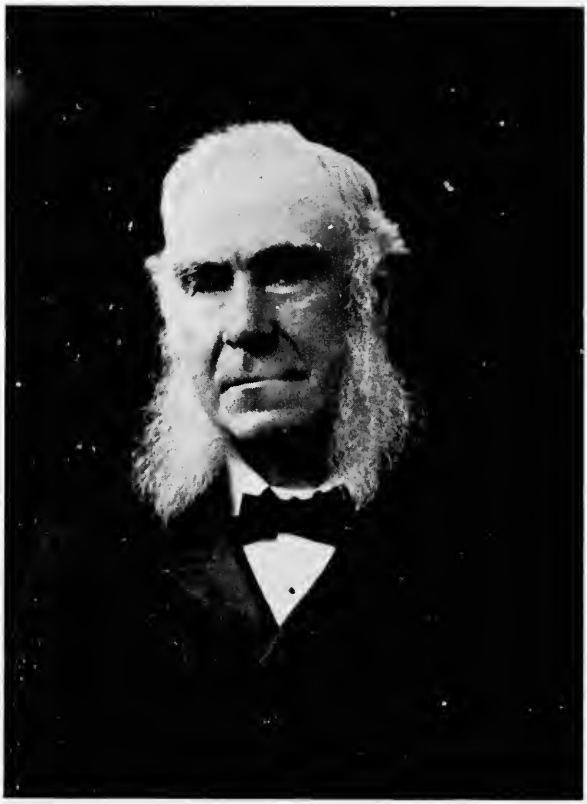
Meantime the congregation was on the look-



JOHN CAMPBELL.

out to have a Pastor settled over them, and had sent a call to the Rev. Mr. Waterston, of Union Free Church, Glasgow, Scotland, who had been supplying the pulpit for about two months in the summer of 1876. This call in due course, came before the Presbytery of Glasgow, in the month of March, 1877, and was declined. The Rev. Mr. Waterston was aware that there still existed a possibility of a division of the congregation, a document having been drawn up, said to have been signed by about one-third of the members, objecting to the movement westwards and to the selling of the Church in Côté street, and besides this the new building in the west end was no further advanced from its foundation walls. Under the circumstances the Rev. Mr. Waterston did not see it his duty to accept this call.

The work of erecting the new building proceeded notwithstanding this opposition, and on the 10th day of March, 1878, the new, beautiful and commodious building was opened for public



PETER REDPATH.

worship. At this point all opposition to the selling of the old Church on Coté street, and the removal westwards vanished, and the congregation again set about to have a pastor settled over them.

On the 16th day of May, 1879, the present pastor, the Rev. A. B. Mackay, D.D., of Brighton, England, was harmoniously and happily settled, and to this day his vigour and pulpit power seem unabated. An incident connected with this call is worth mentioning. When informed by some of the office bearers of the intention to send the call, he very frankly and plainly told them, that the debt on the Church would be a very serious obstacle in the way of his accepting it.

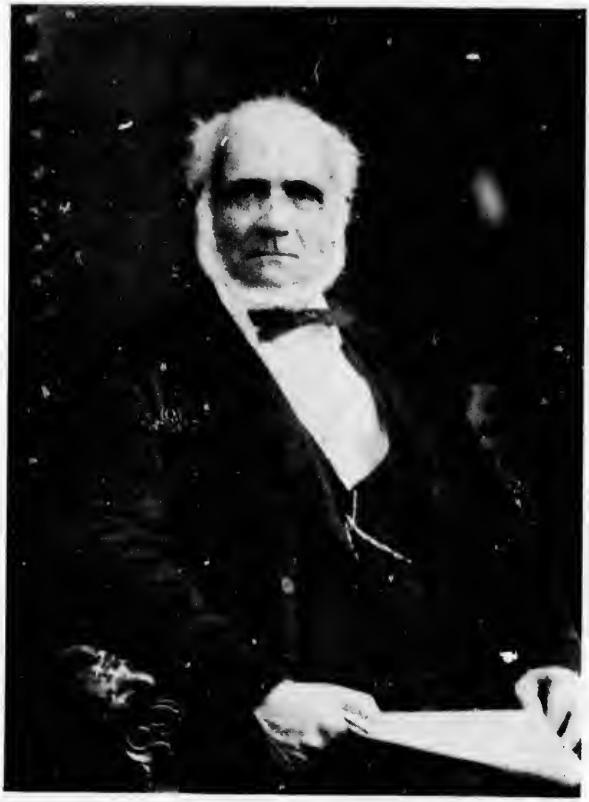
An effort was accordingly made to raise the amount of the money necessary, and it was considered that the total amount then subscribed, with what was expected to be realized from the sale of the old Church in Coté street, would

JAMES ROSS.

extinguish the debt. This however did not turn out so, chiefly because the sale of the old Church in Cote street realized only about one-half of what it was valued at, and so there still remained a considerable debt, not so heavy as to cause much concern, but still it was there, and the interest was an annual charge on the ordinary fund, and the debt itself a burden, that should be removed. In a few years, even with this debt, the general work of the congregation went on quietly and smoothly, each year reducing the debt somewhat, but not to the extent desirable.

In 1888, by a well directed stroke, managed by the pastor himself, before the following year (1889) was ended, the debt was annihilated, the large and powerful organ introduced, a comfortable residence erected for the sexton, and the interior of the Church renovated. The net amount realized by this special effort was about $33,000.00.

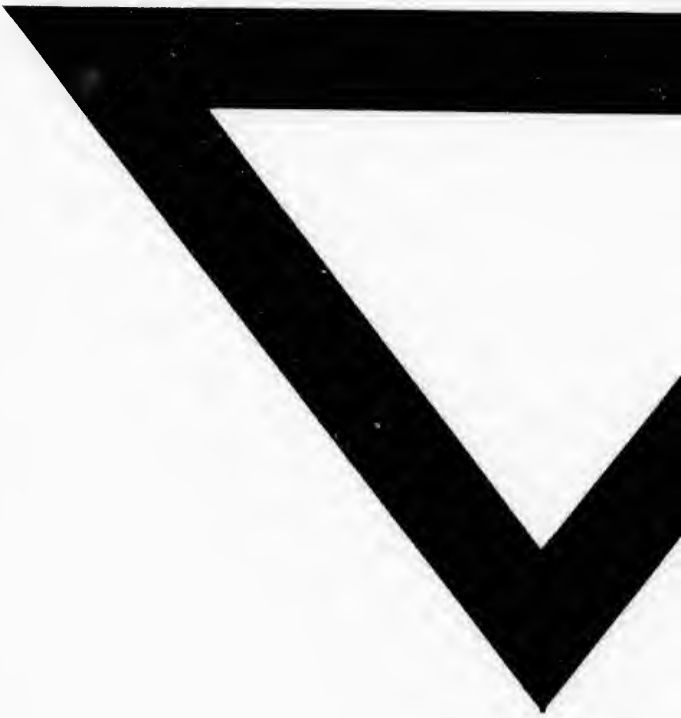
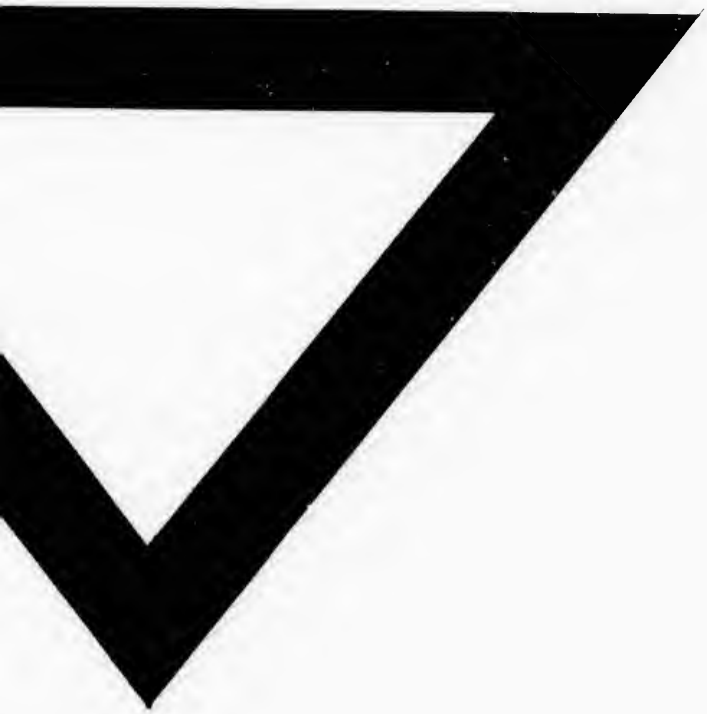
The beautiful stained windows put in at the



JOHN STIRLING.

same time, were a gift to the Church by the late Mr. Peter Redpath, in memory of his father, the late Mr. John Redpath, who might be well called the father of the Church also, and the head of the original twelve Canadian Free Church Apostles—one of whom still remains an honored elder in the Church, Mr. Archibald McGoun.

The general work of this congregation goes on as vigorously as ever. From its beginning it has been greatly blessed as instrumental in turning many to righteousness, and consequently as a great power for good in the community.

That this work and power may go on increasingly in the future should be the prayer of all, and let it be constantly borne in mind that the conditions of future prosperity are the same as ever, viz.: unremitting zeal, self-sacrifice, and steady hard work in every department. Success either in Church or any other kind of work in the ordinary nature of things cannot follow lukewarmness or apathy.

DAVID MORRICE.